this vital life saving drug and what are the reasons for its continous short supply; and

(c) what measures have been taken by Government to make the drug adequately available in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETRO-CHEMICALS IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI R. K. JAICHANDRA SINGH): (a) Reports on shortage of Acitrom tablets were received from some State Drugs Control Authorities and others.

(b) Demand and supply of individual formulations is not monitored. The shortage was due to non-availability of inter-mediates requires in the production of the bulk drug 'Acenocoumarol'.

(c) The company has now overcome the difficulties and resumed normal production. Based on this Ministry's advise the manufacturer, M/s S. G. Pharmaceuticals have already rushed sufficient stocks to various parts of the country.

Improvement in NTPC

648. SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) which was earlier managed efficiently, is suffering seriously problems in recent times; and

(b) if so, what steps Government have taken to keep the unit running with efficiency for increasing the power production?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI):

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Improvement in the State Electricity Boards

649. SHRI KAPIL VERMA: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) what has been the position of generation and plant load factor of power stations run by Electricity Boards in various States during the last six months;

(b) which States have shown improvement; and

(c) has any State shown deterioration, if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI): (a) A statement showing the generation and the plant load factor of State Electricity Boards during the first six months of 1986-87 compared to the same period last year is attached. (*See* below)

(b) and (c) Except Rajasthan, Karnataka and Kerala, all the State Electricity Boards have shown improvement in generation. However, plant Load Factor of thermal stations run by Haryana, Rajasthan, Punjab, Gujarat, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Bihar, Orissa and Assam Electricity Boards has been lower as compared to last year.

The shortfall in generation and Plant Load Factor in the States mentioned above has been mainly on account of increase in forced outages of thermal units and low hydel reservoir level resulting in shortfall in hydro generation.